

ABSTRACT

Methods And Apparatus For Storing Hierarchical Documents In A Relational
Database

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A method of storing a hierarchical document in a relational database comprises parsing a hierarchical document, associating a unique identifier with respective parsed nodes of the document which includes information about the hierarchical position of the node in the document, and storing the node with its identifier in a
10 table of a relational database.

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A relational database comprising a table having an node field for storing an node of a hierarchical document, and an identifier field for storing an identifier associated with each respective node stored in the node field is also described, as is a method
of writing a hierarchical document comprising reading data from a relational
15 database which is representative of nodes of a hierarchical document, generating predetermined software events for respective read nodes, and passing the software events to a content handler which is arranged to translate each software event into a written node of the hierarchical document.